

(5) many people view the expedition that settled on the Island in 1604 as the beginning of the Acadian culture in North America;

(6) in October, 1998, the National Park Service completed a general management plan to manage and interpret the Saint Croix Island International Historic Site;

(7) the plan addresses a variety of management alternatives, and concludes that the best management strategy entails developing an interpretive trail and ranger station at Red Beach, Maine, and a regional heritage center in downtown Calais, Maine, in cooperation with Federal, State, and local agencies;

(8) a 1982 memorandum of understanding, signed by the Department of the Interior and the Canadian Department for the Environment, outlines a cooperative program to commemorate the international heritage of the Saint Croix Island site and specifically to prepare for the 400th anniversary of the settlement in 2004; and

(9) only 4 years remain before the 400th anniversary of the settlement at Saint Croix Island, an occasion that should be appropriately commemorated.

(b) **PURPOSE.**—The purpose of this Act is to direct the Secretary of the Interior to take all necessary and appropriate steps to work with Federal, State, and local agencies, historical societies, and nonprofit organizations to facilitate the development of a regional heritage center in downtown Calais, Maine before the 400th anniversary of the settlement of Saint Croix Island.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **ISLAND.**—The term "Island" means Saint Croix Island, located in the Saint Croix River, between Canada and the State of Maine.

(2) **SECRETARY.**—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the National Park Service.

SEC. 4. SAINT CROIX ISLAND REGIONAL HERITAGE CENTER.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall provide assistance in planning, constructing, and operating a regional heritage center in downtown Calais, Maine, to facilitate the management and interpretation of the Saint Croix Island International Historic Site.

(b) **COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.**—To carry out subsection (a), in administering the Saint Croix Island International Historic Site, the Secretary may enter into cooperative agreements under appropriate terms and conditions with other Federal agencies, State and local agencies and nonprofit organizations—

(1) to provide exhibits, interpretive services (including employing individuals to provide such services), and technical assistance;

(2) to conduct activities that facilitate the dissemination of information relating to the Saint Croix Island International Historic Site;

(3) to provide financial assistance for the construction of the regional heritage center in exchange for space in the center that is sufficient to interpret the Saint Croix Island International Historic Site; and

(4) to assist with the operation and maintenance of the regional heritage center.

SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) **DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act (including the design and construction of the regional heritage center) \$2,000,000.

(2) **EXPENDITURE.**—Paragraph (1) authorizes funds to be appropriated on the condition that any expenditure of those funds shall be matched on a dollar-for-dollar basis by funds from non-Federal sources.

(b) **OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE.**—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to maintain and operate interpretive exhibits in the regional heritage center.

The **SPEAKER** pro tempore (Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska). Pursuant to House Resolution 663, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG).

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of S. 2485, the St. Croix Island Heritage Act. This bill directs the Secretary of the Interior to provide assistance in planning and constructing a Regional Heritage Center in Calais, Maine.

St. Croix Island is located in the St. Croix River between Maine and Canada. It is the only international historic site in the national park system. In 1604, the French landed on the island and began construction of a settlement, which became the first permanent settlement in the New World. In October 1998, the National Park Service completed a general management plan to manage and interpret the St. Croix Island international historic site. In the year 2004, the U.S. and Canada will celebrate the 400th anniversary of the settlement of the St. Croix Island. This bill will facilitate the development of a Regional Heritage Center in downtown Calais, Maine, to be a central focus point for this celebration.

The bill authorizes \$2 million for the planning and construction of the heritage center and requires a dollar-for-dollar match by non-Federal sources. I believe that this bill has merit, and I support its passage.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

S. 2485 is a noncontroversial bill that authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to assist in the construction of a Regional Heritage Center on St. Croix Island. St. Croix Island is located in the middle of the St. Croix River, which forms the boundary between the United States and Canada. The proposed heritage center will be built as part of the upcoming 400th anniversary of the settlement of St. Croix Island.

The National Park Service administers the St. Croix Island international historic site on the island. The proposed heritage center is consistent with Park Service plans for interpretation of the historic site and the island.

The Secretary is authorized to contribute \$2 million toward the construction of the heritage center, provided that each Federal dollar is matched by funds from non-Federal sources.

A House companion measure was introduced by the gentleman from Maine (Mr. BALDACCIO).

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, last week, the Republican leadership hastily sandwiched a minimum wage increase into its tax bill, that was so poorly written it repealed the minimum wage for six months. Today, they are using the bill before us to correct this major error. Perhaps, if they had only chosen to work in a bipartisan way to craft their tax bill, a sloppy mistake like this could have been avoided. The Republican leadership chose, instead, to push through a bill that was all their own, that is destined for a veto because it is full of bad policy and tax benefits for their special interest friends. The tax bill is being used by the Republican leadership to claim they are for increasing the minimum wage, when they are really not. They knew that by tying it to a doomed tax bill, it could not become law. The Democrats in this Congress, on the other hand, strongly support a \$1 increase in the minimum wage and would take effective action to make it happen. We rejected the Republican's scheme, which now requires a quick fix in order to maintain the illusion they sought to create. Let's do the right thing for American Workers and pass a real minimum wage increase now!

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The **SPEAKER** pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

The Senate bill is considered as having been read for amendment.

Pursuant to House Resolution 663, the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the third reading of the Senate bill.

The Senate bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The **SPEAKER** pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record votes on postponed questions will be taken tomorrow.

PRIBILOF ISLANDS TRANSITION ACT

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1653) to approve a governing international fishery agreement between the United States and the Russian Federation, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1653

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

TITLE I—PRIBILOF ISLANDS

SEC. 101. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be referred to as the "Pribilof Islands Transition Act".